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LB 319

SENATOR DOYLE: Yes, I would, Mr. President, I would ask if Senator Johnson would yield to a question.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Johnson.

SENATOR DOYLE: Senator Johnson, if in fact this bill had been referred to the Labor Committee and if in fact the same amendment had been placed on the bill, then would it be germane within the Labor Committee?

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: It probably would still not have been germane within the Labor Committee. It probably would have required a separate bill for it to have been appropriate. The reason why I say that is because what we are dealing with is two different kinds of exemptions from the unemployment compensation program. When this bill was brought, I shouldn't take all of your time, Senator Doyle, but when this bill was brought by Senator Beyer he dealt with one specific exemption and that was the leased trucker exemption. Now someone has come along and said we want another exemption to the unemployment compensation law which has nothing to do with leased trucks, it has to do with home workers and home workers are a substantially different kind of animal than leased truckers are and I would submit that it wouldn't have been germane even if the bill had gone to the Business and Labor Committee.

SENATOR DOYLE: My response to that, Senator Johnson, is that we are dealing here in fact with two different types of independent contractors and, therefore, for that reason it seems to me that it does fit the test of...does meet the test of germaneness that in the case of the independent trucker we are talking about an independent contractor, and in the case of the individuals who work in their homes it meets a similar test. So it would be my argument that it does meet the germaneness test. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Speaker Nichol, members of the Legislature, I, too, would say that this proposed amendment is germane and one of the reasons, if you will look at the bill, Speaker Nichol, you will see that you are dealing with the set of statutes that provide for exemptions in unemployment compensation coverage. There are a long list of exemptions there. They run several pages. These go for a number of different purposes. The bill when it was introduced would have added yet one more exemption dealing with motor carriers. What we are doing is adding a second exemption dealing with home workers and, in fact, there